

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

EB-07 COME-00 NSC-05 SS-15 /069 W

----- 027666

R 021605Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 992

DOD WASHDC

OSAF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

AFSC ANDREWS AFB

ASD WPAFB OH/YP

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS DA

SUBJ: LIGHTWEIGHT FIGHTER: FIRST READING IN PARLIAMENT

REF: COPENHAGEN 1547, 1560

1. RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PROCUREMENT OF THE F-16 PASSED
FIRST READING IN PARLIAMENT MAY 30. AFTER A SHORT
DEBATE (TWO HOURS), THE RESOLUTION WAS REFERRED TO THE
DEFENSE COMMITTEE WITHOUT A VOTE. FROM THE POSITIONS
TAKEN BY PARTY SPOKESMEN, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE RESOLUTION
WILL OBTAIN A MAJORITY OF APPROXIMATELY 120 VOTES (OUT OF
179) WHEN IT COMES UP FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING ABOUT
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JUNE 10. IT IS SUPPORTED BY ALMOST ALL OF THE SOCIAL

DEMOCRATS - 53 SEATS, LIBERALS - 42, CONSERVATIVES - 10, CHRIST-
IAN PEOPLE'S PARTY - 9, AND CENTER DEMOCRATS - 4. THE THREE
FAR LEFT PARTIES - COMMUNISTS, LEFT SOCIALISTS, AND
SOCIALIST PEOPLES PARTY - ARE STRONGLY OPPOSED; THE
RADICALS WILL OPPOSE FOR TRADITIONAL PACIFIST REASONS;
AND A MAJORITY OF THE PROGRESS PARTY, LED BY MOGENS
GLISTRUP, IS ALSO NEGATIVE. PROGRESS PARTY SPOKESMAN JOHN
ARENTOFT SAID THE PARTY'S STAND DID NOT MEAN A CHANGE IN
THE PARTY MAJORITY'S SUPPORT FOR NATO BUT MERELY THAT THE
MAJORITY COULD NOT APPROVE THIS PROJECT AT PRESENT. AS
THE PARTY MOST COMMITTED TO REDUCING GOVERNMENT SPENDING,
THE PROGRESS PARTY OBVIOUSLY FELT IT WOULD BE INCONSISTENT
TO SUPPORT THE LARGE EXPENDITURE INVOLVED IN THE F-16
PURCHASE, ESPECIALLY SINCE THEIR SUPPORT WAS NOT
NECESSARY FOR PASSAGE.

2. THE PARTIES ON THE FAR LEFT ARE COMBINING FORCES TO
MOUNT AN ANTI-F-16 DEMONSTRATION OUTSIDE PARLIAMENT CO-
INCIDENT WITH THE SECOND READING OF THE RESOLUTION. THE
COMMUNIST PARTY'S DRIVE FOR SIGNATURES OPPOSING THE
PURCHASE HAS REPORTEDLY DRAWN A RESPONSE BEYOND EXPECTA-
TIONS. THE DEMONSTRATIONS, CONSEQUENTLY, MAY BE A SIZEABLE
AFFAIR BUT IT WILL HAVE NO FORESEEABLE EFFECT ON THE
VOTE.
CROWE

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Message Attributes

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